

CITY OF MUSCATINE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – February 4, 2010

Mayor Dick O'Brien called the City Council meeting for Thursday, February 4, 2010, to order at 7 p.m. Councilmembers present were LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Roby, Bynum, and Lange.

Henry Meyers, Associate Pastor at the Mulford Evangelical Free Church, gave the opening prayer. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Solid Waste Manager Laura Liegois stated Muscatine County would be receiving the Enviro Award of Excellence. She stated Muscatine County allows the city to use the lot at the corner of E. 5th Street and Mulberry Avenue for placement of a curbside recycling trailer and cardboard drop off container. She then outlined the various recycling/green activities the county is involved in.

Mayor O'Brien then presented Esther Dean, representing the Muscatine County Board of Supervisors, with the Enviro Award of Excellence. He thanked her for the county's efforts.

Ms. Dean stated she was pleased to accept the award on behalf of Muscatine County. She stated this activity is another example of the cooperative effort between the city and county and shows that good things can be accomplished when both entities work together for the good of the community.

#20907. Councilmember Bynum moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2010 Regular City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember LeRette. All ayes; motion carried.

#20908. Councilmember Lange moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows: Filing of Communications A-I and Bills for Approval totaling \$1,113,725.57. Seconded by Councilmember Roby. All ayes; motion carried.

Mayor O'Brien stated that Item 9B, pertaining to a request for a new Class C Beer Permit with Sunday Sales for Pearl City Tire & Wheel, 3206 Hershey Avenue, had been withdrawn from the agenda.

#20909. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved the request be approved to close Weed Park to vehicular traffic on Sunday, May 30, 2010, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the 32nd Annual Melon City Criterium Bike Race subject to a pre-event meeting with city staff. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

Greg Harper, 619 Sunrise Circle, thanked City Council for approving the request for the closure of Weed Park. He then explained why the Bike Club is requesting the closure of the park. He stated that racers come from all over the country, and he invited everyone to come and watch the event.

Councilmember Shihadeh stated it was his understanding the Aquatic Center was opened for the bicyclists.

Mr. Harper stated it is opened so that participants have use of the restrooms and shower facilities.

#20910. Councilmember Lange moved to approve the use of city property for the Great River Days Community Celebration from July 25, 2010 through August 1, 2010 subject to a pre-event meeting with city staff. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald.

Councilmember Bynum, speaking in reference to last year's event, asked if the city experienced any problems, particularly in the area where the concerts were held.

Rich Klimes, the city's Parks and Recreation Director, stated that as with any event, there are issues that arise. He stated city staff is satisfied with the cooperative effort shown by the organizers of this event and it is there recommendation the request be approved.

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

#20911. Councilmember Roby moved to approve the request for the use of city property for the Great River Days Parade for Saturday, July 31, 2010 subject to a pre-event meeting being held with city staff. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum. All ayes; motion carried.

#20912. Councilmember Shihadeh moved to approve the use of city property for the “That was Then, This is Now” 2010 Boat Show subject to a pre-event meeting being held with city staff. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald.

Councilmember Roby asked why the racing activities had been changed.

Mr. Klimes stated the organizer of the event has chosen to have the racing event every other year. He pointed out there are quite a few other activities planned.

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

#20913. Councilmember Shihadeh moved to approve the request for the use of city property for the Great River Rumble on Saturday, August 7, 2010, which includes camping overnight, subject to a pre-event meeting being held with city staff. Seconded by Councilmember Lange.

Max Kauffman, 1986 Geneva Hills Road, representing the Great River Rumble, stated this trip will begin in Dubuque and terminate in Muscatine. He stated organizers are requesting permission to land at the old boat ramps. He stated some folks may want to stay overnight which is why camping has been requested south of the playground. He stated he has been working with several organizations in the community and is now seeking City Council's blessing.

Councilmember Lange stated this is a significant riverfront experience for the citizens of Muscatine.

Councilmember Roby asked if a port-a-potty was being requested.

Mr. Kauffman stated if Council feels one is needed, one will be provided. He stated the majority of the participants would not be spending a lot of time on the riverfront.

Mr. Klimes stated that once the numbers have been firmed up and the pre-event meeting is held, the decision will be made on whether one is needed.

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

#20914. Councilmember Lange moved to approve the use of city property for the Bishop Hayes 5K Race/Walk on Saturday, April 17, 2010, subject to a pre-event meeting being held with city staff. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

#20915. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the proclamation be approved declaring February 21-27, 2010 as “Alexander G. Clark Week”. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum. All ayes; motion carried.

#20916. Councilmember Fitzgerald moved the first reading of the ordinance be approved providing for the division of taxes levied on taxable property in the Muscatine 2010 Industrial Urban Renewal Area pursuant to Section 403.19 of the Code of Iowa. Seconded by Councilmember Roby. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and ordinance approved on first reading.

#20917. Councilmember Bynum moved to approve the request from the Police Department to declare 36 bicycles/frames as surplus property. Seconded by Councilmember Shihadeh. All ayes; motion carried.

#20918. Councilmember Lange moved to approve the purchase of a new ATV/Utility Vehicle for the Police Department. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig.

Councilmember Roby asked what would happen to the old utility vehicle.

Police Chief Gary Coderoni stated it will be dissembled and offered to another city department for use. If there is no interest, the vehicle will be declared as surplus and sold.

Vote – All ayes; motion carried.

#20919. Councilmember Shihadeh moved to approve the request from the Fire Department to change residency requirements to allow employees to reside in Muscatine, Louisa, Cedar or Scott counties. Seconded by Councilmember Roby. All ayes; motion carried.

Councilmember Natvig stated budget sessions are underway. He asked anyone who might have comments to contact Councilmembers. He stated the contact information can be found on the city's website.

Councilmember Bynum invited the public to attend the budget session scheduled for Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the lower level conference room of city hall.

Councilmember Roby announced this weekend's activities for the Redwall Abbey. She stated they will be taking place at the library, Environmental Learning Center, art center, and the Wesley Family Life Center.

City Administrator Gregg Mandsager asked for a consensus from Council to cancel the February 11, 2010 In-Depth meeting. Instead there will be a closed session at 5 p.m. in the lower level conference room of city hall followed by the regular budget session.

There was a consensus from Council to make this change.

City Administrator Mandsager stated the Fire Department recently received grant funding for a new "Freddie the Fire Truck".


City Administrator Mandsager stated that at a budget session held earlier this week, the GMCCI/CVB presented their request for funding from the city. He stated he has been asked to serve on their Economic Development Committee and has also been asked to participate on the Recruitment Subcommittee.

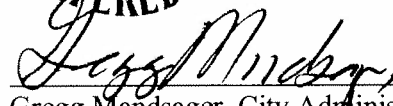
City Administrator Mandsager stated the federal funding cycle is coming up and the city will be submitting an application for funding for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Project and will also be looking for additional funding dollars down the road.

City Administrator Mandsager stated that earlier in the week he had been invited to Colorado School as part of their good citizenship program. Mrs. Crumly's first grade class presented the city with a "Fairness" award which was in the form of a painted rock that will be on display at city hall.

#20920. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:35 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.




Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor


Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator